

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Canceled).
2. (Previously Presented) The composition assist frame selecting method for the digital camera as defined in claim 18, wherein the plurality of shooting modes include at least two of an automatic shooting mode, a day scenic shooting mode, a person shooting mode and a night scenic shooting mode.
- 3.-4. (Canceled).
5. (Previously Presented) The composition assist frame selecting method for the digital camera as defined in claim 20, wherein the plurality of shooting modes include at least two of an automatic shooting mode, a day scenic shooting mode, a person shooting mode and a night scenic shooting mode.
6. (Previously Presented) A digital camera comprising:
 - a shooting mode selecting device that enables selection of a shooting mode from a plurality of shooting modes;
 - an imaging device that images a subject in the shooting mode selected by the shooting mode selecting device and outputs image signals;
 - an image displaying device that displays the image according to the image signals outputted from the imaging device;

a storing device that stores data of a plurality of composition assist frames, wherein the storing device stores more than one composition assist frame associated with each of the plurality of shooting modes;

an extracting device that extracts more than one composition assist frame that can be selected from the plurality of composition assist frames according to the shooting mode selected by the shooting mode selecting device;

a composition assist frame selecting device that enables selection of a composition assist frame from the more than one composition assist frames extracted by the extracting device; and

a composition assist frame displaying device that displays the composition assist frame selected by the composition assist frame selecting device on the image displaying device displaying the image.

7. (Original) The digital camera as defined in claim 6, wherein the plurality of shooting modes include at least two of an automatic shooting mode, a day scenic shooting mode, a person shooting mode and a night scenic shooting mode.

8. (Original) The digital camera as defined in claim 6, further comprising a luminance determining device that determines subject luminance by weighting areas of the image according to the shooting mode selected by the shooting mode selecting device, the imaging device controlling exposure according to the subject luminance determined by the luminance determining device.

9. (Original) The digital camera as defined in claim 8, wherein the luminance determining device corrects the subject luminance according to the shooting mode selected by the shooting mode selecting device.

10. (Original) The digital camera as defined in claim 6, further comprising a storage device that stores the image signals outputted from the imaging device in a storage medium.

11. (Currently Amended) A digital camera comprising:

an imaging device that images a subject and outputs image signals;

an image displaying device that displays the image according to the image signals outputted from the imaging device;

a storing device that stores data of a plurality of composition assist frames wherein the storing device stores more than one composition assist frame associated with each of a the plurality of shooting modes widthwise direction and a lengthwise direction of the camera;

a direction determining device that determines whether the digital camera is held in the widthwise direction or the lengthwise direction;

an extracting device that extracts more than one composition assist frame that can be selected from the plurality of composition assist frames according to the widthwise or lengthwise direction of the camera determined by the direction determining device;

a composition assist frame selecting device that enables selection of a composition assist frame from the more than one composition assist frames extracted by the extracting device; and

a composition assist frame displaying device that displays the composition assist frame selected by the composition assist frame selecting device on the image displaying device displaying the image.

12. (Original) The digital camera as defined in claim 11, further comprising a storage device that stores the image signals outputted from the imaging device in a storage medium.

13. (Currently Amended) A digital camera comprising:

a shooting mode selecting device that enables selection of a shooting mode from a plurality of shooting modes;

an imaging device that images a subject in the shooting mode selected by the shooting mode selecting device and outputs image signals;

an image displaying device that displays the image according to the image signals outputted from the imaging device;

a storing device that stores data of a plurality of composition assist frames wherein the storing device stores more than one composition assist frame associated with each of the ~~plurality of shooting modes~~ a widthwise direction and a lengthwise direction of the camera;

a direction determining device that determines whether the digital camera is held in the widthwise direction or the lengthwise direction;

an extracting device that extracts more than one composition assist frame that can be selected from the plurality of composition assist frames according to the shooting mode selected

by the shooting mode selecting device and the widthwise or lengthwise direction of the camera determined by the direction determining device;

a composition assist frame selecting device that enables selection of a composition assist frame from the more than one composition assist frames extracted by the extracting device; and

a composition assist frame displaying device that displays the composition assist frame selected by the composition assist frame selecting device on the image displaying device displaying the image.

14. (Original) The digital camera as defined in claim 13, wherein the plurality of shooting modes include at least two of an automatic shooting mode, a day scenic shooting mode, a person shooting mode and a night scenic shooting mode.

15. (Original) The digital camera as defined in claim 13, further comprising a luminance determining device that determines subject luminance by weighting areas of the image according to the shooting mode selected by the shooting mode selecting device, the imaging device controlling exposure according to the subject luminance determined by the luminance determining device.

16. (Original) The digital camera as defined in claim 15, wherein the luminance determining device corrects the subject luminance according to the shooting mode selected by the shooting mode selecting device.

17. (Original) The digital camera as defined in claim 13, further comprising a storage device that stores the image signals outputted from the imaging device in a storage medium.

18. (Currently Amended) A composition assist frame selecting method for a digital camera, the method comprising:

enabling selection of~~determining~~ a shooting mode from a plurality of shooting modes;

imaging a subject in the selected shooting mode and outputting image signals;

displaying the outputted image signals on a display;

storing data of a plurality of composition assist frames, wherein more than one composition assist frame is associated with each of the plurality of shooting modes;

extracting more than one composition assist frames-frame that can be selected from the plurality of composition assist frames according to the selected shooting mode;~~associated with the selected shooting mode from a plurality of composition assist frames;~~

enabling selection of a composition assist frame from the extracted more than one
~~extracted composition assist frames-frame~~~~associated with the selected shooting mode;~~ and

displaying the selected composition assist frame on the display device to assist
composition.

19. (Currently Amended) A composition assist frame selecting method for a digital camera, the method comprising:

imaging a subject and outputting image signals;

displaying the image on a display according to the outputted image signals;

storing a plurality of composition assist frames wherein more than one composition assist frame is associated with each of a widthwise direction and a lengthwise direction of the camera;

determining whether the digital camera is held in the widthwise direction or the lengthwise direction;

extracting more than one composition assist frames-frame that can be selected from the plurality of composition assist frames according to the determining whether the digital camera is held the widthwise direction or the lengthwise direction associated with the determined direction of the digital camera from a plurality of composition assist frames;

enabling selection of a composition assist frame from the more than one extracted composition assist frames-associated with the determined direction of the digital camera; and

displaying the selected composition assist frame on the display displaying the image to assist composition.

20. (Currently Amended) A composition assist frame selecting method for a digital camera, the method comprising:

enabling selection of a shooting mode from a plurality of shooting modes;

imaging a subject in the selected shooting mode and outputting image signals;

displaying the image according to the outputted image signals;

storing data of a plurality of composition assist frames wherein more than one composition assist frame is associated with each of a widthwise direction and a lengthwise direction of the camera;

~~determining device that determines whether the digital camera is held in the~~ widthwise direction or the lengthwise direction;

~~determining a shooting mode from a plurality of shooting modes;~~

extracting more than one composition assist frames ~~frame~~ that can be selected from the plurality of composition assist frames according to the selected shooting mode and the determination of whether the digital camera is held widthwise or lengthwise ~~associated with the determined shooting mode and the determined direction of the digital camera;~~

enabling selection of a composition assist frame from the extracted more than one composition assist frames ~~associated with the determined shooting mode and the determined direction of the digital camera;~~ and

displaying the selected composition assist frame on the display displaying the image to assist composition.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, wherein each of the plurality of composition assist frames circumscribes an area within the display.

22. (Canceled).